

10601 BLUFF BEND

COMMUNITY UPDATE

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BACKGROUND

- Road closed on March 11, 2016
- Original plan: make repairs over the summer.
- July 2016: utility conflict discovered. Estimated work would be done in November.
- New estimate: work should be complete in the spring.





VIEW OF THE ROAD



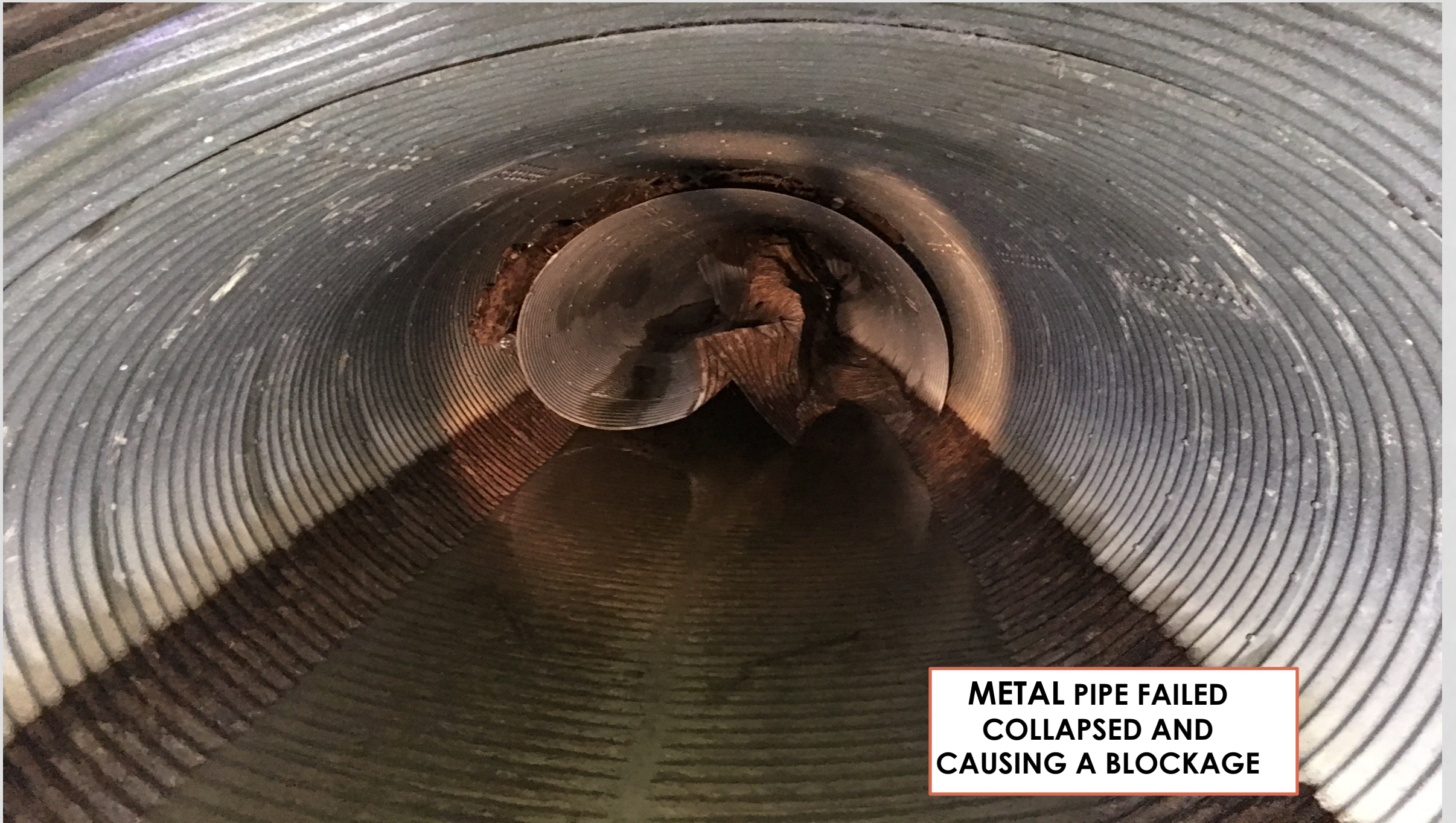
HOLE IN THE ROAD



**Exposed water
line supplying the
community**



**Culvert pipes on
downstream of
creek**



**METAL PIPE FAILED
COLLAPSED AND
CAUSING A BLOCKAGE**



**Pedestrian Bridge
above pipes**



**PIPE WASHED OUT
AT THE UPSTREAM
SIDE OF THE CREEK**



**Exposed water
line supplying the
community**

**EXTENSIVE VOID BENEATH
THE ROAD WHERE PIPES
WASHED OUT**

DESIGN CHALLENGES

1. Original creek crossing was not up to City standards.
2. Creek crossing subject to flooding; culverts undersized.
3. Needed a long-term fix and a more resilient design.
4. Utility conflicts:
 - I. AT&T fiber-optic cable
 - II. 16-inch water supply
 - III. 2-inch water drain pipe
 - IV. 2-inch gas line
 - V. Pedestrian bridge
5. Height of the embankment; structural certification needed.

SCHEDULE CHALLENGES

- Replacing or upgrading a creek crossing or bridge is typically planned over years.
- Typical time frame for a low water crossing upgrade project:
 - I. Preliminary engineering = 1 year
 - II. Design = 1 year
 - III. Permitting and Bidding = 1 year
 - IV. Construction = 6 months to 1 yearTotal = 3 to 5 years

MILESTONES

March

- Road closed and emergency traffic control plan set-up.
- AISD contacted; they request pedestrian bridge remain open until end of school year.
- One-call markings were requested to identify the subsurface utilities in the area.
- Austin Water Utility, AT&T, Texas Gas contacted to address utility conflicts in the road.
- Communications sent to three neighborhood associations, AISD and City Council district representatives. Posting on NextDoor. Door hangers distributed to neighborhood.
- Preliminary engineering/schematics design for repair options begins.

MILESTONES

April

- Field data collected for engineering.
- Modeling of the capacity of the drainage system performed.
- Preliminary sizing of the infrastructure performed: requires two rows of 7-ft by 7-ft box culverts.
- Vegetation/tree removal survey performed.
- Permanent traffic control plan established.
- Approval for stream bank modifications.
- Austin Water Utility installs valves on the water line to avoid turning off water during repairs.
- Texas Gas decommissions their gas line.

MILESTONES

May to June

- Design of the improvement begins.
- Order placed for concrete box culvert pipe to be used, estimated pipe will be manufactured by July.
- Presented at a public meeting with the North Acres neighborhood.
- Removed the pedestrian bridge.
- Waterline replacement recommendations approved.

MILESTONES

July to September

- Design continues. Modifications required due to AT&T conflict.
- Demolition of the road begins. Crews remove over 1,400 tons (~160 truck loads) of material from the site.
- Over 800 tons (~40 truck loads) of material is imported to stabilize the site.
- Bypass pumping of the creek is performed.
- Preliminary schematics of the structural retaining wall begins.
- AT&T utility is exposed for survey and design update.
- Mailed 2,000 letter to citizens and businesses in the area.

MILESTONES

October

- Quality control check of plans for structural retaining wall plans is performed. Modifications requested.
- Plan set is being updated and in process of being finalized.
- AT&T contacts the City in regard to impacts of the utility to the design of the project.
- Public meeting is requested by the community.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- What are the next steps?
- Why isn't Public Works involved?
- Has the City done projects like this before?
- Why didn't the City get the estimated completion date right the first time?
- Why is our neighborhood being neglected and not getting the same attention other neighborhoods are getting?
- Couldn't a temporary bridge or road have been put in place in the meantime?

QUESTIONS

www.austintexas.gov/watershedprojects

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